

## **HOMESCHOOL AND HOME/HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION**

### **Definition**

The home/hospital instruction program shall provide educational services to students who are homebound due to injury or health problems/conditions that require him or her to be homebound or hospitalized for a period anticipated to last more than three weeks as diagnosed and confirmed by a licensed physician who is board certified in the specialty of the student's diagnosis, ex. psychiatrist for mental health illnesses, OBGYN for reproductive illnesses or conditions and so on. This impairment must significantly interfere with the student's educational growth and interfere with his/her ability to master necessary content standards and objectives. The instructional services will not exceed six (6) hours per week.

The services will be provided by a certified teacher. Instruction will only be provided in core subject areas, eg. math, English, social studies, science, so a return to school is necessary in order for a student to meet graduation requirements. In the case of expectant mothers, homebound instruction may be provided during the ninth month of pregnancy and a maximum of six weeks after delivery, providing that the student experiences a normal pregnancy with no complications. All students receiving services for more than three months must take homebound paperwork back to their physician and be recertified as still in need of homebound services. An expected date of return must be included by the physician. The program may include the following:

Home instruction – Home instruction is individualized instruction within the home for persons who are unable to attend a regular public school temporarily or permanently because of health problems.

Hospital Instruction – Hospital instruction is individualized instruction within a hospital for persons who are confined to the hospital for care and treatment, and according to a medical report, are well enough to participate in an instructional program.

WV Virtual School may provide additional course options to be taken through distance learning that will support the alternative delivery setting for students who have been diagnosed with a life threatening illness by a licensed physician that prevents the student from attending school for a prolonged period of time. The student must have access to the proper technology to receive the instruction via Internet. Pleasants County Schools will not be responsible for providing the equipment or connection necessary for delivery of instruction. Any course taken for high school credit must have prior approval of the principal.

### **Evaluation**

To determine eligibility for home/hospital instruction, a medical examination by a licensed physician, as specified above, is required. The physician's report should indicate whether or not the child will need to be out of school for a period of three weeks or more, and whether or not instruction should be provided.

**Placement – Eligibility Criteria**

- Diagnosis of a health problem by a licensed clinician in the specialty field of the illness/condition and a recommendation that home/hospital instruction be provided.
- Diagnosis of a mental, psychological, or emotional disorder must be made by a licensed psychiatrist and be accompanied by a recommendation that home/hospital instruction be provided. Such diagnosis must be accompanied by a proposed treatment plan and schedule.
- For individuals enrolled in other special education programs, the home/hospital teacher will continue to implement the existing Individual Education Plan.
- For individuals not enrolled in other special education programs and whose home/hospital instruction is temporary, the development of an Individual Education Plan is unnecessary.

Reference: State Board Policy 2419 and SB Policy 2510.

Amended: December 11, 2014

Amended: February 9, 2017

Reviewed: March 25, 2021